



*County of Paintearth*  
*No. 18*



# **2018 Annual Report**



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## County Council

**Division 1:** George Glazier

**Division 2:** Dale Norton

**Division 3:** Doreen Blumhagen (Deputy Reeve)

**Division 4:** Stan Schulmeister (Reeve)

**Division 5:** Maurice Wiart

**Division 6:** Tyrrill Hewitt

**Division 7:** Diane Elliott

**Chief Administrative Officer – Michael Simpson**

### Council Meetings

Regular County Council Meetings are scheduled to be held every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month commencing at 9:00 a.m. The adopted Council Meeting Minutes are available on the County's Website or photocopies are available to the public for a nominal fee.

## Message from Reeve Stan Schulmeister

Thank you for taking time to review our annual report. This report includes a description of the activities, programs and projects that occurred in the County of Paintearth during 2019. As the challenges of 2020 unfold, Council continues to grow an open, inclusive environment for all citizens. Our recently released Public Input Summary Report from phase one of public consultations on the County's new Municipal Development Plan and Land Use Bylaw updates provided a wealth of great input (and a few excited comments!) that Administration will work to incorporate into the new documents. To request a copy of this document, printed or digital, please email the County's Chief Administrative Officer at [msimpson@countypaintearth.ca](mailto:msimpson@countypaintearth.ca)

The information provided in our annual report is part of the County's ongoing culture of transparency to help build trust between local government and the community it serves. If you have any questions regarding the information in this report, please do not hesitate to contact me.

County Council continues to follow a three-year operating plan, aligned with Council's priorities for 2020 which are outlined in a public document; the County of Paintearth Strategic Plan. A summary of what we heard during surveys is available for public viewing.

Copies of public documents, including the County of Paintearth Strategic Plan, annual Audited Financial Statements, Public Input Surveys and policies and bylaws are always available for download on the County website, [www.countypaintearth.ca](http://www.countypaintearth.ca)

In closing I would like to thank my Council colleagues and staff on the continued dedication to our municipality and ratepayers.

Respectfully yours,

Stan Schulmeister, Reeve  
County of Paintearth No. 18

## Administration Office

### Office Hours

The County Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday except statutory holidays. The Office is closed daily from 12:00 p.m. to 12:30 p.m.

## Website

For information regarding the County of Paintearth No. 18 please visit our website at [www.countypaintearth.ca](http://www.countypaintearth.ca)

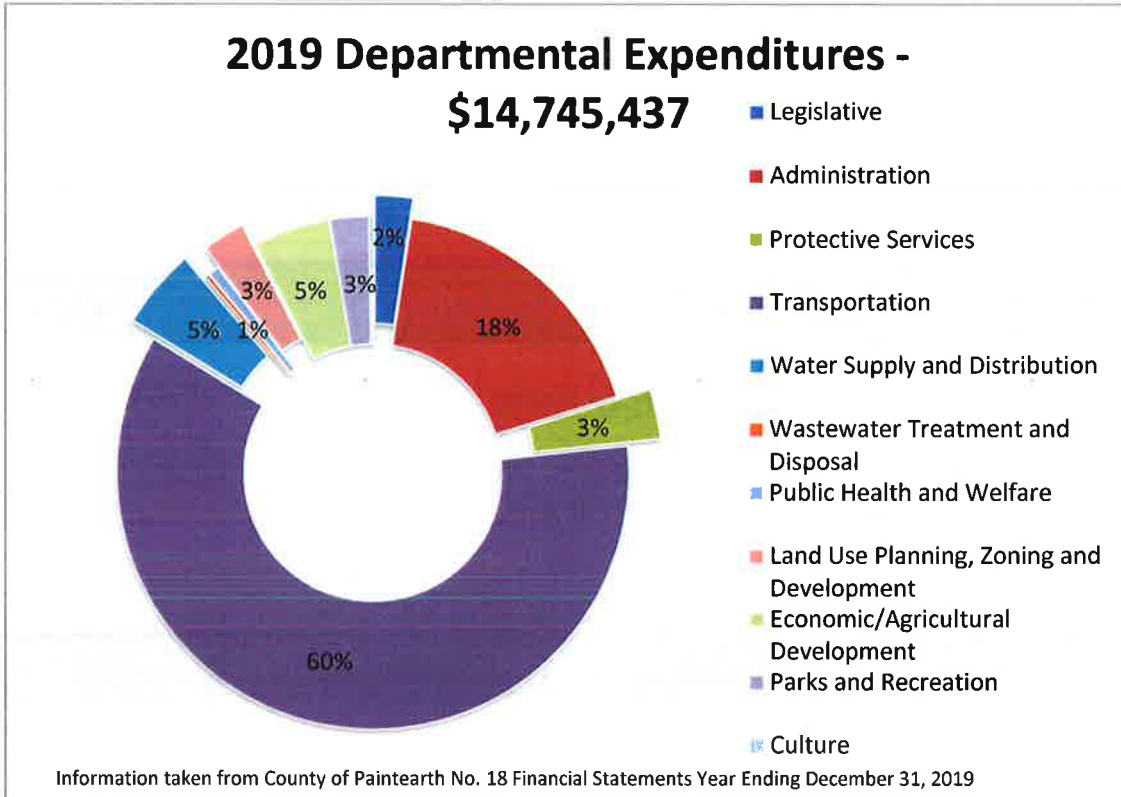
## Department of Corporate Services

The Corporate Services department is responsible for the overall management of the financial affairs of the County. This includes assessment, property taxes, accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, capital projects financing and tracking, utilities and other general administrative functions.

The department is responsible for accounting and financial reporting services with our annual audited financial statements as well as other interim reporting.

The 2019 Financial Statement is available to the public and can be obtained on the County's website ([www.countypaintearth.ca](http://www.countypaintearth.ca)) or by contacting the administration office at 403-882-3211.

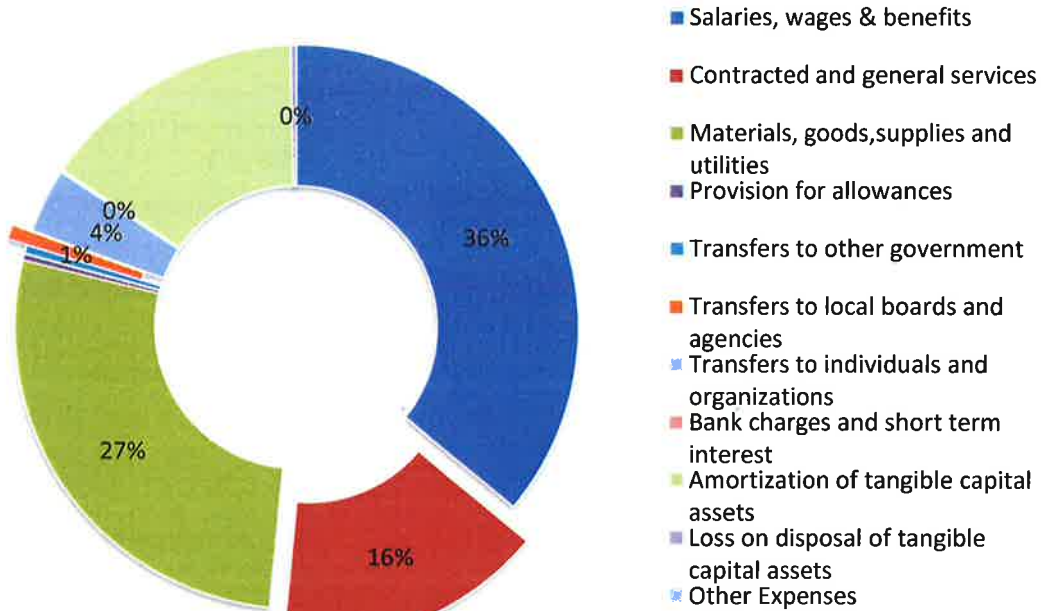
**2019 Financial Synopsis**



EXPENDITURES	2019 Budget	2019	2018
Legislative	\$454,800.00	\$353,862.00	\$285,470.00
Administration	\$2,219,001.00	\$2,621,625.00	\$2,278,799.00
Protective Services	\$473,215.00	\$462,483.00	\$457,500.00
Transportation	\$11,021,925.00	\$8,903,933.00	\$8,794,033.00
Water Supply and Distribution	\$728,520.00	\$743,615.00	\$706,844.00
Wastewater Treatment and Disposal	\$35,975.00	\$41,296.00	\$37,760.00
Public Health and Welfare	\$102,000.00	\$98,708.00	\$98,708.00
Land Use Planning, Zoning and Development	\$370,150.00	\$399,388.00	\$427,690.00
Economic/Agricultural Development	\$735,750.00	\$722,881.00	\$679,956.00
Parks and Recreation	\$467,280.00	\$365,010.00	\$396,408.00
Culture	\$40,000.00	\$32,636.00	\$32,363.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$16,648,616.00</b>	<b>\$14,745,437.00</b>	<b>\$14,195,531.00</b>



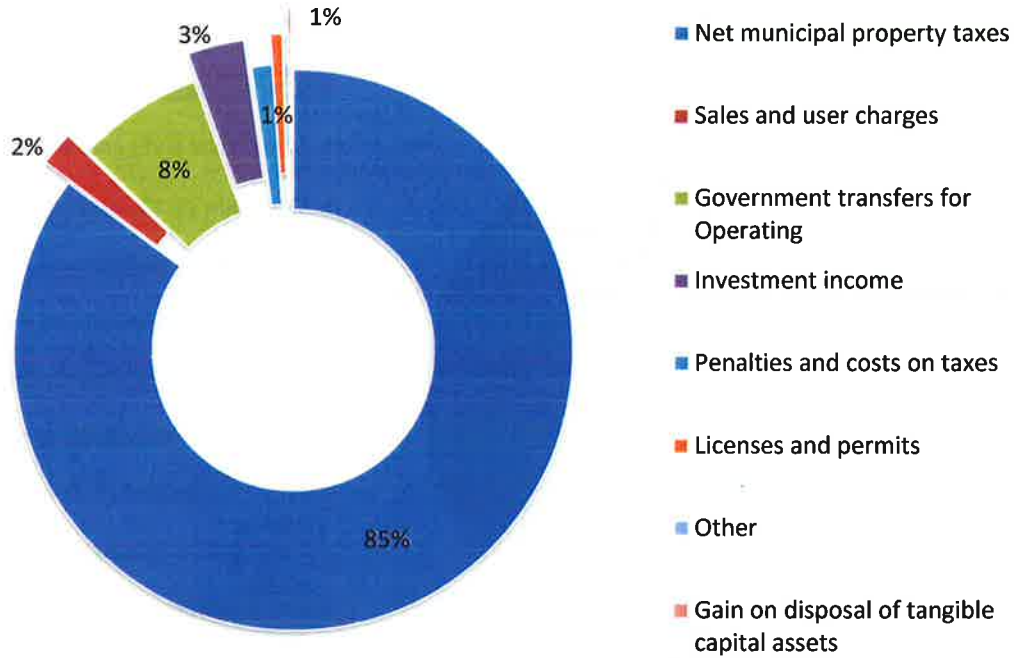
## 2019 Expenditures by Object - \$14,745,437



Information taken from County of Paintearth No. 18 Financial Statements Year Ending December 31, 2019

EXPENDITURES	2019 Budget	2019	2018
Salaries, wages & benefits	\$5,886,056.00	\$5,304,647.00	\$5,039,376.00
Contracted and general services	\$1,797,267.00	\$2,285,466.00	\$2,160,721.00
Materials, goods, supplies and utilities	\$5,430,318.00	\$4,028,342.00	\$3,913,497.00
Provision for allowances	\$101,500.00	\$53,389.00	-\$98,358.00
Transfers to other government	\$1,200.00	\$74,462.00	\$4,198.00
Transfers to local boards and agencies	\$158,000.00	\$126,195.00	\$169,698.00
Transfers to individuals and organizations	\$683,900.00	\$548,757.00	\$612,838.00
Bank charges and short term interest	\$76,000.00	\$19,436.00	\$45,969.00
Amortization of tangible capital assets	\$2,454,375.00	\$2,254,409.00	\$2,233,971.00
Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	\$60,000.00	\$50,334.00	\$113,621.00
Other Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$16,648,616.00</b>	<b>\$14,745,437.00</b>	<b>\$14,195,531.00</b>

## 2019 Revenues - \$16,670,485

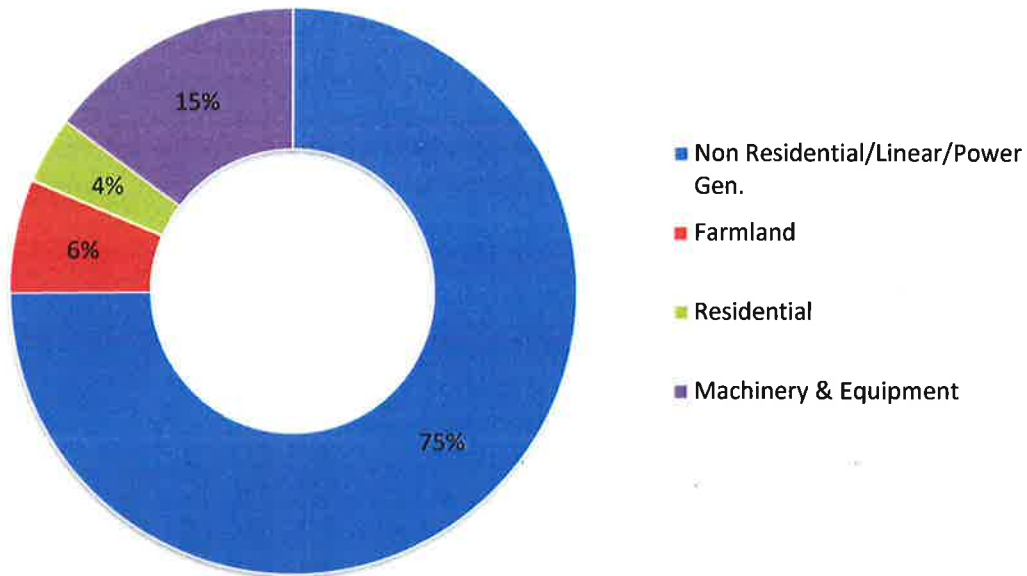


Information taken from County of Paintearth No. 18 Financial Statements Year Ending December 31, 2019

REVENUE	2019 Budget	2019	2018
Net municipal property taxes	\$14,227,641.00	\$14,194,805.00	\$13,806,008.00
Sales and user charges	\$515,075.00	\$331,870.00	\$398,121.00
Government transfers for Operating	\$134,200.00	\$1,218,408.00	\$1,117,347.00
Investment income	\$200,000.00	\$543,703.00	\$448,298.00
Penalties and costs on taxes	\$100,000.00	\$198,711.00	\$125,858.00
Licenses and permits	\$97,000.00	\$112,249.00	\$148,456.00
Other	\$15,000.00	\$34,455.00	\$20,724.00
Gain on disposal of tangible capital assets	\$14,700.00	\$36,284.00	\$24,590.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$15,303,616.00</b>	<b>\$16,670,485.00</b>	<b>\$16,089,402.00</b>



## 2019 Property Tax Revenue



Information taken from County of Paintearth No. 18 Bylaw No.676-19

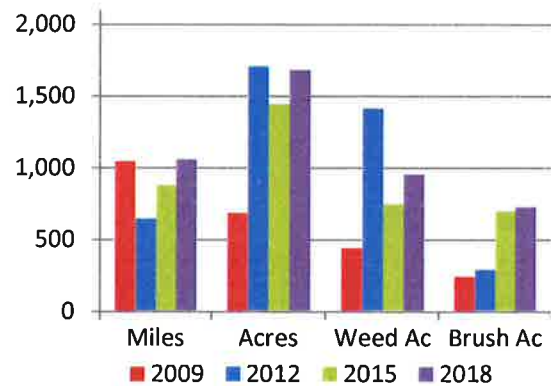
## Department of Environmental Services

### Industrial Vegetation Management

#### Roadside Spraying

The roadside spraying program is a three year rotation program, with the majority being spot sprayed. Division 3 was partially blanket sprayed, with spot spraying occurring in Division 2 and a couple townships in Division 1. 124.5 miles of brush that were mechanically removed with the mulcher was targeted as well.

During 2018 the County sprayed 1,058 miles for a total of 1,684 acres; weed control represented 65% of these acres. The total spraying program cost was \$116,600 or \$73.25/acre. About 58% of the right-of-ways were sprayed across the county and 62.5% in the rotation.



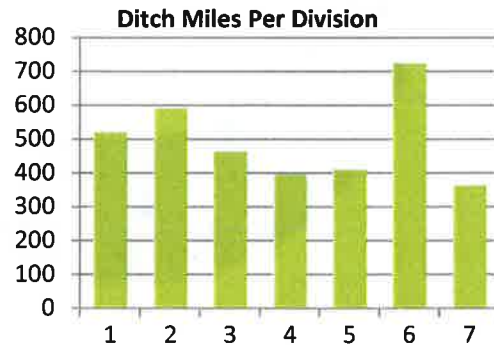
Private Land Spraying

The County provides custom spraying on private land for control of small patches of persistent perennial noxious or prohibited noxious weeds. The ASB is equipped with an ATV sprayer and a UTV boomless sprayer. This service is offered at a very minimal cost to County residents and can be found below in the “Services and Equipment Available to County Residents”.

The County of Paintearth’s ASB has made the control of Absinth Wormwood a priority but has not elevated it at this time. Currently, education and awareness about this weed is the approach decided on by the ASB. In 2018 over 30 acres was sprayed for the control of Absinth Wormwood including 12 miles (44%) of the SMRWC waterline for Absinth Wormwood and brush.

Roadside Mowing

The goal of the roadside mowing program is to complete a minimum of one 15-foot pass on all roads. In 2018 1,575 miles were mowed including 1,038.5 miles of gravel, 41.25 miles of pavement, and 196 miles of backroads with 143.5 miles of second cut and 157 mile of full cuts. The program starts in June in order to complete the work as weather and mechanical conditions can play a role. The ASB realizes that areas mowed in the beginning of the year will have regrowth that may require a second pass and if time allows will be completed.



To avoid damage to machinery ASB staff picks rocks that have been marked in the previous year. The ASB ask that County residents avoid piling rocks or any other objects in the ditch as they are sometimes not visible. Any gates that residents would like to be left open please have leaning up against the fence.

The 2018 total program cost for mowing was \$125,700 or \$36.28/mile or \$72.56 a road mile. The rotary mowers currently in use by the ASB allows for mowing of smaller brush, increased visibility, less grass on road surface, and less risk of creating fires.

Weed Inspections

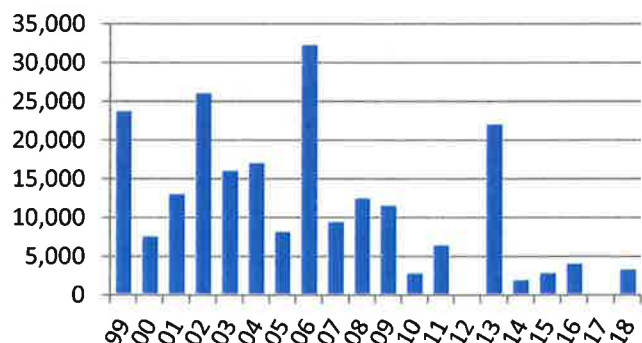
Weed inspections have always been a part of ASB duties, but we also rely on information from the public. If you are concerned or are aware of a weed problem, please call the ASB staff or you can go to the website and Report A Weed under the Agriculture and Utilities web page.

**Conservation**

Tree Program

The County has always held this program in high priority and landowners who order 200 trees or more can request assistance in the planting of the trees at no charge. In 2018

County Tree Distribution History



there were 3,257 trees ordered for 8 individuals.

Any resident or business can order trees. There are no longer any restrictions on who can apply. Those who order trees are responsible for the cost as set by the nursery. The ASB will continue to offer a planter and staff to help plant. To help in weed control and moisture retention plastic mulch is available in 1500' rolls. A plastic mulch applicator is shared with other municipalities, but can be made available to lay the mulch down after the trees are planted if required.

#### Environmental Program Funding

In early 2018, the ASB partnered with the Battle River Research Group (BRRG) to hold a "Succession Planning/Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) Preview" workshop which had 155 attendees. Topics included updates regarding the upcoming CAP programs and new requirements surrounding Environmental Farm Plans; as well as taxes, family discussions, and general considerations around succession planning.

The ASB also held a "Watering Systems & Riparian Health" field day in July in partnership with the BRRG and the Battle River Watershed Alliance (BRWA), with speakers presenting on riparian health, vegetation, maintenance, regulation, and off-site watering systems. The field day had approximately 20 attendees.

In December an On-Farm Energy workshop was held in partnership with the BRRG. There were 28 attendees in attendance.

A meeting was also held with the Town of Coronation to discuss pest and environmental issues affecting both municipalities.

The ASB has also joined the BRWA-led Buffalo Trail Riparian Restoration Program. This program aims to enhance water quality throughout the Ribstone and Blackfoot sub watersheds of the Battle River watershed through funding various landowner-initiated projects. It is a large-scale project with many partners including 3 other municipalities, CFB Wainwright, and several riparian specialists. The County of Paintearth's capital will only be contributed to projects undertaken within the county.

#### **Pest Control**

##### 2% Liquid Strychnine Concentrate

The County has been involved in the sale of 2% LSC ever since the province has been able to receive an emergency registration from the Pest Management Regulatory Agency. Although the delivery has changed over the years the registration has restricted the sale of the liquid strychnine through the ASB's only. The ASB sold product to 40 different producers in 2018.

##### Coyote Predation Management

The County recognizes that predation of livestock by coyotes can be a serious problem, which are a declared nuisance pest under the Agricultural Pests Act. Livestock producers can request assistance in the control of coyotes where predation is confirmed. Two producers received help with coyote predation in 2018.

##### Surveys

The ASB has again surveyed for Clubroot in 2018. Inspectors follow a protocol for proper sampling techniques before entering the land. At a minimum, five fields per division are surveyed every year. However, in 2018 an additional 6 fields were surveyed by ASB staff and 12

fields were surveyed by the University of Alberta for a total of 53 fields, with no Clubroot fields identified. The Board decided to increase the notification from 1-mile radius to 2 miles based on the surveys we got back.

ASB staff conducts a grasshopper survey every year and in 2018 ASB staff surveyed 38 fields and the numbers were still found to be at low levels.

Beaver Dam Removal

The Board recognizes that beaver dams need to be removed or breached periodically to protect, maintain or construct infrastructure or to avoid the flooding of private and public land. The Director of Environmental Services is a licensed blaster and is available for the removal of beaver dams. Prior to the start of the blasting, the landholder must sign a Beaver Dam Blasting Agreement.

**2018 ASB EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES AVAILABLE**

Rental Equipment Available

Back Pack Sprayer	\$50.00 Ref. Deposit
Hand Broadcast Seeder	\$50.00 Ref. Deposit
Cattle Scale	\$40.00/half day or \$75.00/ full day
Hay Probes	no charge
Gallagher Tag Reader	\$250.00 Ref. Deposit

Pest Control Products Available

Magpie Traps	\$50.00 Ref. Deposit
Skunk Traps	\$50.00 Ref. Deposit
Crop Protection Blue Books	\$11.43 + G.S.T.
Coyote Control Materials	no charge
Beaver Dam Removal	\$100 for 1 <sup>st</sup> dam & \$50 for each additional

Vegetation Management

1. Private Land Spraying - \$50.00/hr plus the cost of the chemical per L applied at cost plus GST, where applicable, will be charged. One follow-up treatment will be included in the initial call out fee if needed. Subsequent call outs will be charged at the discretion of the applicator.
2. Industry Spraying - \$50.00/hr and chemical cost plus 10% and any GST applicable.
3. Weed Picking - \$35/hr plus GST.

Tree Planting

Tree planter and staff are provided free of charge for tree orders over 200. Shipping charges for the trees shall be paid for by the ASB. Plastic mulch will be available for sale to producers with a minimum purchase of a roll (1500’).

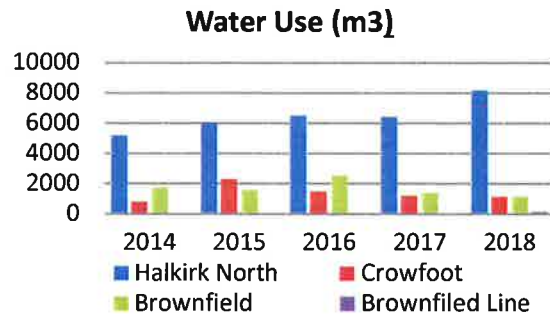
Pesticide Container Sites

Castor Waste Transfer Site	SW 03-38-14 W4
Coronation Waste Management	SW 36-36-11 W4

# Rural Water Distribution

## Rural Water Distribution

In 2018 the construction of the Brownfield Waterline was complete, and the construction of the Brownfield Water Station was close to completion. The Coronation Reservoir serves the Town of Coronation and residents along the Brownfield waterline (Secondary Highway 872) to Brownfield. The water line is approximately 15.5 miles long which currently serves 12 residences.



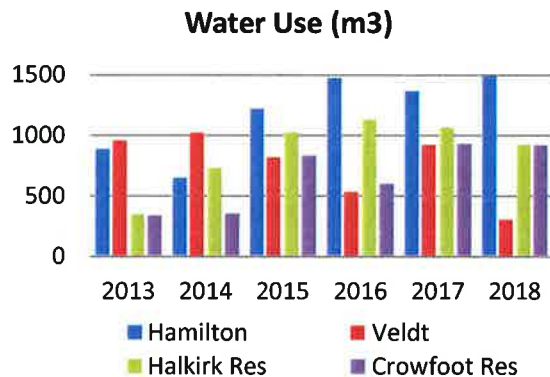
There has been approximately 21.5 miles of rural water line constructed off the Halkirk Reservoir that serves 21 users currently. The Crowfoot Reservoir currently only serves the Crowfoot Subdivision.

Water is brought to the property line where a meter vault is installed. During the engineering phase of a project the cost for hook-up is \$7,500 and \$20,000 if done after. Water is charged based on actual use. A \$20 monthly capital fee is also applied.

The County is invested in three reservoirs strategically placed in Halkirk, Crowfoot Crossing, and west of Coronation.

## Truckfill Facilities

The County operates two types of truckfills. The Halkirk and Crowfoot Reservoirs have drinking water that is open to everyone and Hamilton (NE-32-35-10) and Veldt (NW-12-38-15) are wells that are for agricultural, firefighting, and County use only.



All are coin box operated and accept loonies and toonies. Water rates for reservoirs are \$5/220 gallons; Hamilton and Veldt are \$1/150 gallons. The Village of Halkirk receives the proceeds from the Halkirk Reservoir. The graph shows the annual use of each. In comparison the average 4 person family household uses 87,600 gallons (400 m3) per year.

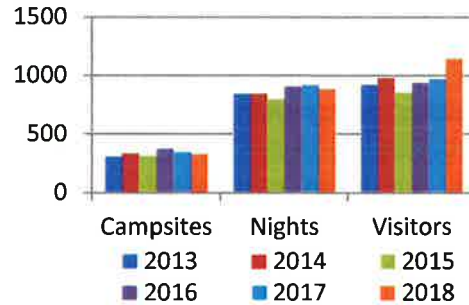
The water wells are also used in a groundwater monitoring program. The static water level in both facilities has not changed. The wells are also shock chlorinated in the spring.

## Burma Park

### Burma Park

There are 21 campsites located at the park with baseball facilities. In 2018 we have begun expanding the campsites and will be finished before the camp season begins. There are two playgrounds, shower facilities, hiking trails and free firewood. Camping rates are \$25 for power and \$20 for non-power.

There were 332 campsites for 887 nights for a total of 1,144 visitors to the park of which 53.5% of those were from the County.



## Department of Planning and Development

Through the development permit process, the County of Paintearth safeguards and ensures its ratepayers a safe and effective building and planning process for all developments, buildings and subdivisions. The Development Officer is available for questions, inquiries, and is willing to assist/guide all residents through the permit process. A comparison of 2018 with the previous year is found below.

Development Permits	2018	Value \$\$	2017	Value \$\$
Residential Homes (incl mobile)	17	3,429,500	11	2,842,000
Residential – accessory, additions	7	438,000	3	70,000
Agricultural uses	1	250,000	1	40,000
Industrial/Commercial	6	72,000	7	5,685,000
Recreational	0		1	80,000
Industrial – Wind Energy	0		74	296,000,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>4,189,500</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>\$304,717,000</b>

2018 was a normal year in that there were 31 permits issued for developments, and one (1) permit application rejected, keeping in line with previous years notwithstanding unique large scale industrial applications. The numbers are broken down above.

Development Permit fees, applications and related forms can all be found on the website. The County completed an annual update to the Land Use Bylaw which brings the County current and aids in the proper development of areas and safeguards rural lands. In 2018 there were no LUB updates however a few housekeeping items have been flagged for a future LUB update commencing possibly in Fall 2019.



Subdivisions – There were 3 subdivision applications in the County during 2018, all of which were farmstead separations or acreage creations. Most subdivisions take approx. 3-4 months to complete, the County recommends an initial discussion or review with the Development Officer prior to the process, in order to aid in a smooth process and avoid any obstacles.

Palliser Regional Municipal Services is the agency responsible for all planning and subdivision review within the County. PRMS also handles all safety codes permits and applications for building, electrical, gas, plumbing and private sewage disposal. For more information detailing the development and safety code requirements of your project please contact the Development Officer at the office or visit [www.palliserservices.ca](http://www.palliserservices.ca).

A note on the Halkirk 2 Windfarm – in June 2018 the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board issued its decision upholding the permits issued in 2017, pursuant to compliance with the AUC decision received in April 2018 as per the MGA requirements. The SDAB decision then was appealed to the Alberta Court of Appeal, and may appear on the docket late in the fall of 2019. It needs to be noted that the County's role in approving and regulating these projects is severely limited by the Province, as the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) is the overarching authority and has the power to tell the County what it must do. These processes prove costly to the County in view of the fact we are powerless to the Province's will and law.

The County's Municipal Planning Commission – MPC – presides over all discretionary or sensitive development permits and subdivision requests. In 2018 the MPC was comprised of Councillors' Tyrrill Hewitt (Chair), Diane Elliott, George Glazier and Reeve Stan Schulmeister. In fall of 2018, Councillor Maurice Wiart replaced Councillor Tyrrill Hewitt and Diane Elliott took over as Chair.

### INDUSTRY

2018 was a rebound year for the Oil and Gas industry in the County. There were 45 oil and gas projects requiring 12 new approach constructions, and 33 projects accessing via existing approaches – nearly double 2017 figures. There were 14 new pipeline crossings of our road network, 3 from the local gas cop-op and 11 from industry, up from only 2 the year prior. 2018 showed an increase in new resource exploration projects as 73 project notifications were received (up from the previous year's 44). Also, the Orphan Well Association has several projects being worked on and reclaimed within the County, cleaning up closed or abandoned wells and pipelines. Karve Energy and Steelhead Petroleum appear to lead the way in being active producers in the County.

## Disaster Services

The County continues to update its emergency preparedness, and its ability to coordinate responses in the Emergency Operations Center. In our County, the threat of wildfires in the dry grassy season is the largest threat and we encourage all residents to be ever vigilant in the use of fires, when so allowed.

The County held a workshop in May 2018 where progress updates of area agencies' storm readiness plans were shared, as well as a learning session hearing about 2017 wildfires in Special

Areas and Waterton. The event was greatly received by all and may serve to increase our readiness in dire events.

National Emergency Preparedness Week is always the first week in May, and in 2018 the residents were asked to consider being prepared all year long and complete a voluntary preparedness planning survey, which will allow the County to better plan responses and provide assistance in the event of a major disaster threatening our rural areas. Thus far from the surveys received we've found the rural population is well suited to outlast most natural or weather disasters! If you have not completed the questionnaire please do so, it may save you someday!

## Community Peace Officer

The contact person for the Peace Officer program in the County of Paintearth is Mr. Michael Simpson, the CAO for the County of Paintearth #18. The County has only one peace officer; Colm Fitz-Gerald.

The nature of duties performed by Officer Fitz-Gerald include but are not limited to administration and enforcement of county bylaws, traffic laws, consultation duties with RCMP and other county groups. Education has been the main thrust and still is with the major oil companies, energy companies and local land owners with regards to use of county roads. The economic slowdown could still be felt in the early part of the year and still reduced the amount of road permits in the county however county road use was still busy. Late spring brought a brighter economic upswing hence more traffic in the county. This in turn required the continued pre and post patrol of our roads. Spring saw an improvement in the economy which in turn increased road permits. Officer Fitz-Gerald continues to work closely with the RCMP, Commercial Enforcement and local fire departments.

Officer Fitz-Gerald is also in charge of running our fire permit program and is part of upgrading the bylaw, including enforcement. There were 230 permits issued.

File investigations included RUAs(road use agreements), fire calls, bylaw files, assist files with RCMP and other files. Officer Fitz-Gerald is also part of the Emergency Management Team in planning as well as peace officer duties. He also assists other departments in the scope of his duties.

### Road Bans

The County places bans on the roads throughout the year to protect them from damage, such as deep ruts and potholes that overweight vehicles can cause. Traffic signs are posted when a road is banned, indicating the percentage of axle weights that are permitted to travel on the road. All our paved roads are banned year round at 50% or 75% ban.

All Secondary Highways located in the County are under Provincial jurisdiction. For information on roads under Provincial jurisdiction, visit, [www.transportation.alberta.ca](http://www.transportation.alberta.ca), or call toll free 1-877-236-6445.

### Overweight & Over dimensional Permit Approval Services

To improve the availability of service to Industry, to better track the movement of these heavy loads and to improve the ability to recover cost for any damages that may occur, the County of Paintearth has partnered with Roadata Services Ltd. (RDS) to provide approval services for the movement of heavy loads on County roadways.

RDS will provide all approval services as per the guidelines established by the County. This service will be available 24 hours per day at (888) 830-7623 (toll free).

Allowable Weights: When movement is not restricted due to road bans, adverse weather or individual roadway limitations, the County follows Alberta "Allowable Permit Weight" guidelines. Please remember that any municipality has the authorization to limit weights below provincially defined weight.

## Department of Public Works

### Gravel Program

The County graveled approximately 266 miles of roads in 2018 and applied approximately 65,000 tonne of ¾ inch, and 8,500 of 1½ inch gravel. The summer road gravelling is completed with 4 county owned trucks; 3 super-b belly dumps and 1 tandem truck with a tandem belly dump.

The County stockpiles approximately 30,000 tonne of ¾ inch and 10,000 tonne of 1½ inch gravel from our gravel pits to various stockpile sites using our own gravel trucks. In 2018, the County purchased approximately 50,000 tonne of supply and deliver and 30,000 tonne supplied of 4-20 Alberta Transportation spec ¾ inch gravel from outside sources. We also crushed approximately 30,000 tonne of 1 1/2 inch in the Horn pit. This is final crush at this location as it has been depleted of its crushable material.

The County gravel inventory consists of approximately 600,000 tonne of ¾ road gravel and 1,700,000 tonne of gravel in reserves. There is approximately a 30 year supply of gravel with the current gravel inventory and materials in reserves.

### Road Network

The County is divided into 10 grader divisions with each grader operator maintaining approximately 100 miles of gravel roads and approximately 25 miles of back roads. The County's grader fleet consists of 1 Caterpillar 160H motor graders, 2 Caterpillar 14H motor graders, and 10 Caterpillar 160M / AWD motor graders. The County buys new graders on a 5-year buyback program and sells the used graders on the open market at the end of 5 years. This enables the County to have sustainable and reliable equipment to maintain our roads.

The road system is comprised of:

Regularly Maintained Roads	1,095 miles
Non-Regularly Maintained Roads	254 miles
Undeveloped Roads	470 miles
Paved Roads	<u>28 miles</u>
Total:	1,844 miles

One plow truck for our winter sanding & plowing needs.

#### Road Approaches/Culverts

The Public Works Department built 15 new approaches of which 6 required culverts and widened 19 which 12 needed new culverts. The Public Works Department replaced 37 culverts across rural roads.

#### Road Signage

The Public Works Department is responsible for looking after approximately 1,036 different signs throughout the County. In 2018, 38 signs were installed or replaced, and 21 new sign posts were installed. If you notice a sign missing or knocked down, please contact the County Office immediately.

#### Bridge Program

The County has 110 bridges and bridge size culverts. The Public Works department is responsible for all maintenance on our structure. Major repairs are contracted out. We have staff trained in minor bridge maintenance on all the bridges size structures. Maintenance on these bridges is scheduled throughout the winter or rain days. The County contracts all the bridge inspections out to WSP Engineering.

In 2013 the Provincial Government cut all funding for bridge repairs and replacements.

#### Fence Line Brushing

The Public Works Department brushed approximately 8 miles of fence line and ditch bottoms.

#### Back Sloping

The Public Works Department back sloped 15.5 miles of ditches and fence lines. This service is considered on a request and priority basis. Requests are to be submitted on a hold harmless application and landowners must remove their fence. There is no charge for this service.

#### Mulching

The Public Works Department mulched approximately 9 miles of road ditches with contract mulcher and 32 miles with our county owned mulcher.

### Road Stabilization

The Public Works Department applied MG30 on 54 miles of gravel roads using approximately 1,846,061 liters at a cost of \$0.27 per liter. The County will be using this product for farm and other road stabilization projects in the future. The biggest advantage to using this product is that it is none corrosive. The County of Flagstaff did an independent study on the corrosiveness of MG 30; the results came back that rain water is more corrosive than MG 30! We also save on the amount and frequency that gravel is applied to the road once the base has been established with MG 30.

### Safety Program

The County of Paintearth is committed to a strong safety and loss program that protects its staff, its property and the public from accidents. In 2018, the County passed the external safety audit with a score of 91%. The safety program is ongoing and will always be a big part of the County's daily operations.

